

# **Understanding Your Profitability Reports**

## Herd Summary & Cow Lifetime Profit

The Profitability Report provides an annual summary of the estimated profitability of animals in the herd. Estimated profit is calculated for each cow at 1st calving and at the end of each lactation. Profit is expressed as \$/cow. There are two sections to the Profitability Report, the Herd Profit Summary and Cow Lifetime Profit.

The Herd Summary report consolidates the individual cow profitability data provided on the Cow Lifetime Profit report into group averages. This summary allows for the efficient analysis of results and the comparison of herd averages to provincial benchmarks.

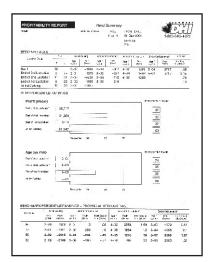
Note: Cows are grouped by their number of completed lactation(s) where "lactation" includes the dry period. (Example: a cow that has calved twice is considered to be in her 2nd lactation until she calves for the 3rd time).

The Cow Lifetime Profit report ranks the cows in the herd using one of the most important performance criteria - profit!

The report estimates the profitability of each cow in the herd at 1st calving and at the end of each lactation. The calculated value of profit (\$/cow) for each animal takes into account her ability to produce milk as well as her ability to get in calf and begin producing again.

Profitability is calculated by estimating revenues for each cow and then subtracting maintenance and production related expenses. Cow income is estimated using the value of the milk produced based on average provincial with-in quota milk prices. Estimated expenses include:

- heifer rearing costs to 24 months
- · overhead for dry cows and heifers older than 24 months
- · maintenance feed costs for milking and dry cows
- · overhead costs for milking cows
- marginal feed costs for cows for milk production
- opportunity cost of owning quota to market milk from the cow



### **Profitability Report - Herd Summary**

The Herd Summary report has three sections:

### 1. Herd Averages Table

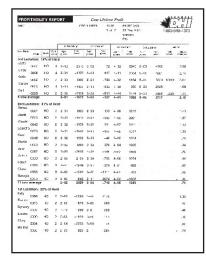
The group average information for profit and age based on lactation number is displayed. Vertical analysis of the group averages shows how groups of animals have performed through various stages of your management system over time. This information can be used to analyse the impact on per cow profitability from management changes such as: improvements in heifer rearing; changes to animal housing; a new reproduction management program. Conversely, you can see the economic impact of using below average forages or that effect reproductive problems can cause in your herd.

#### 2. Herd Percentile Rankings

The bar graphs illustrate the herd average information relative to other herds in the province. The graphs show how each lactation group in the herd compares for profitability and cow age and illustrate areas of proficiency as well as potential areas of improvement.

#### 3. Provincial Benchmarks

Provincial Benchmarks for all herds on DHI are provided for comparison, analysis, and goal setting.



### **Profitability Report - Cow Lifetime Profit**

Cow Lifetime Profit lists the profitability of all animals that have calved once and were present in the herd during the last DHI test of the year or on the test date appearing on the report. Animals are listed in four groups: those that have calved only once; those that have completed one lactation; those that have completed 2 lactations; and those that have completed 3 or more lactations.

Note: For this report the lactation includes the dry period. (For example: a cow that has calved twice is considered to be in her 2nd lactation until she calves for the 3rd time)

Cows in each group are ranked by Profit (\$/cow), where the cows at the top are most profitable; those at the bottom are the least profitable.

The *At 1st Calving* profit value represents the cost (negative profit) of rearing the animal from birth to calving. This number is provided for all animals based on their age at first calving (also shown) and heifer rearing costs. The *1st lactation*, *2nd lactation*, and *3rd lactation* columns display the age at the end the lactation and the estimated profitability for each animal that has completed 1 or more lactations.

In the *Lifetime* column, Profit (\$/cow) displays the calculated profit for animals that have completed 4 or more lactations (calved 5 or more times) to the end of their most recently completed lactation. Profit/ Day shows the calculated profit value for each day of life. This is calculated for all animals in the herd having completed one or more lactation(s)

The profitability values calculated for each cow will change each time the report is printed. This will show how the animals compare using current prices and will allow for accurate comparisons between groups of animals over time.